

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Claims 1 to 33 (cancelled)

34. (previously presented) A bristle for brushware or brushes, the bristle produced by cutting an extruded monofilament to length, the bristle comprising:

a core of hard flexible plastic material;
a shaft surrounding said core, said shaft made from a soft elastic plastic material; and
a jacket surrounding said shaft, said jacket made from a material which reinforces said shaft, wherein said core projects past said shaft at a use end of the bristle to give the bristle a tapered, pointed tip.

35. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said shaft consists essentially of a rubber-elastic plastic material.

36. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said shaft consists essentially of an elastomer.

37. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein at least one of said shaft and said jacket extend conically towards a tip of said core.

38. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core has a conical tip.

39. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core and said shaft can be axially displaced relative to one another.
40. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said shaft and said jacket can be axially displaced relative to one another.
41. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core is rounded at its tip.
42. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core is made from one of a thermoplastic material, polyamide, and polyester and said shaft consist essentially of a thermoplastic elastomer.
43. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said jacket consists essentially of one of a thermoplastic material, polyamide, and polyester.
44. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 42, wherein said thermoplastic material is one of polyamide, polyethylene, polypropylene, and polyester.
45. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle extends conically along a partial length of up to 2mm.
46. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle extends conically along a partial length of between 0.1 and 1mm.

47. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein a diameter of said core at said pointed tip is between 0.01 and 0.03mm.
48. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core can be split at least once in a region of its exposed end and can be spread beginning at said exposed end.
49. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core is split at least once proximate its exposed end at locations spaced apart from said exposed end, wherein said split locations bulge elastically when pressure is exerted on said exposed end.
50. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core consists essentially of at least two thin monofilaments.
51. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein a cross-section of a material structure of the bristle changes from inside to outside.
52. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein said core has a material structure of high elasticity and abrasion resistance and said jacket has high bending strength.
53. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle is produced through co-extrusion of at least two of said shaft, said core, and said jacket.

54. (currently amended) The bristle of claim 34, wherein the bristle is produced through extrusion of said jacket ~~onto said~~ onto a co-extruded shaft and core.
55. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, further comprising abrasive means embedded in at least a region of said soft shaft.
56. (previously presented) The bristle of claim 34, wherein at least said shaft and said core have different colors.
57. (currently amended) Method for producing the bristle of claim 34, wherein ~~one of the bristle, the monofilament, and a section of the monofilament~~ a use end section of the bristle is conified through grinding by clamping it at a separation from its free end, wherein said core is supported on a circulating grinding surface and set at an inclination with respect to that circulating grinding surface corresponding substantially to a cone angle.
58. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein the bristle, including said core and jacket, is supported on said grinding surface.
59. (previously presented) A method for producing the bristle of claim 34, wherein said core and said shaft are axially displaced relative to one another until part of a length of said core projects past said shaft.

60. (previously presented) A method for producing the bristle of claim 34, wherein said jacket and said shaft are axially displaced relative to one another until a cylindrical partial length of said shaft projects past said jacket.
61. (previously presented) The method of claim 57, wherein at least one of said core, said shaft, and said jacket are stepped, wherein part of a length of at least one of said shaft and said jacket is conical.
62. (previously presented) A brush, comprising a bristle support and a bristle stock mounted thereto, the bristle stock comprising individual bristles or bristles combined into bundles or groups, wherein said bristle stock at least partially comprises the bristles of claim 34.
63. (currently amended) The brush of claim 62, wherein the bristles ~~according to claim 34~~ are disposed only in defined regions of said bristle stock.
64. (previously presented) The brush of claim 62, wherein said brush is one of a toothbrush and a driven tooth brush.
65. (currently amended) The brush of claim 64, wherein the bristles ~~according to claim 34~~ are only disposed in defined regions of said bristle stock.

66. (currently amended) The brush of claim 62, wherein ~~said the~~
bristles ~~according to claim 34~~, project past other bristles in said
bristle stock.